

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Original) A memory card reading/writing apparatus that is capable of accessing data recorded on a memory card and comprising:

a memory unit operable to store apparatus-user information that identifies the user of said memory card reading/writing apparatus;

an apparatus-user-information-acquisition unit operable to acquire said apparatus-user information from said memory unit;

a memory-card-user-information-acquisition unit operable to acquire from said memory card main-memory-card-user information that identifies the main user of said memory card;

a user-information-comparison unit operable to compare said apparatus-user information and main-memory-card-user information, and to output the comparison result;
and

an output unit operable to output a specific output based on said comparison result.

2. (Original) The memory card reading/writing apparatus of claim 1 wherein;
said output unit outputs information indicating no match when said apparatus-user information does not match said main-memory-card-user information.

3. (Original) The memory card reading/writing apparatus of claim 2 wherein;

said output unit outputs information of the main user of the memory card when said comparison result indicates there is not a match.

4. (Original) The memory card reading/writing apparatus of claim 1 further comprising:

a memory-card-contents-list-information-acquisition unit operable to acquire information showing a list of the data contents stored on said memory card, and wherein;

said output unit outputs information showing said list of data contents acquired by said memory-card-contents-list-information-acquisition unit when said comparison result indicates a match.

5. (Original) The memory card reading/writing apparatus of claim 4 such that when said memory card is partitioned into a plurality of areas and memory-card-user information, which is the information of the main users of each area, is related to each of the areas:

said user-information-comparison unit compares said apparatus-user information with the memory-card-user information of each said area;

said memory-card-contents-list-information-acquisition unit acquires information showing a list of data contents from the area corresponding to the memory-card-user information whose comparison result was a match; and

said output unit outputs information showing the list of data contents acquired by said memory-card-contents-list-information-acquisition unit.

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Original) The memory card reading/writing apparatus of claim 1 further comprising a log-information-writing unit operable to write log information containing specific information including said apparatus-user information on said memory card when said comparison result indicates there is no match.

8. (Original) The memory card reading/writing apparatus of claim 7 wherein said log information further includes information related to the contents on said memory card that have been accessed.

9. (Original) The memory card reading/writing apparatus of claim 7 further comprising:

a memory-card-contents-list-information-acquisition unit operable to acquire information showing a list of data contents stored on said memory card, and wherein:

said output unit outputs information indicating that a log will be created of access of the memory card; and

said log-information-writing unit writes said log information after said memory-card-contents-list-information-acquisition unit acquires information showing a list of data contents stored on said memory card.

10. (Original) The memory card reading/writing apparatus of claim 1 further comprising a function-restriction unit operable to perform a process of lowering the function

of the memory card reading/writing apparatus based on said comparison result.

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Original) The memory card reading/writing apparatus of claim 1 wherein:

said memory-card-user-information-acquisition unit acquires sub-memory-card-user information from said memory card that identifies users of said memory card that are different than said main-memory-card-user information, and

said user-information-comparison unit compares said apparatus-user information with said sub-memory-card-user information, and outputs a comparison result.

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Original) The memory card reading/writing apparatus of claim 1 wherein said output unit is a mail-transmission unit operable to send e-mail to an e-mail address that is included in said main-memory-card-user information when said comparison result is no match.

20. (Cancelled)

21. (Cancelled)

22. (Currently Amended) The memory card reading/writing apparatus of ~~claim~~
~~20~~ claim 19 further comprising:

a GPS (Global Positioning System); wherein
said user information contains current position information that is obtained from said GPS.

23. (Currently Amended) The memory card reading/writing apparatus of ~~claim~~
~~1~~ claim 19 further comprising:

a mail-receiving unit operable to receive e-mail and to acquire apparatus-user information from the received e-mail that identifies the user of the apparatus that sent the e-mail;

a user-information-comparison unit operable to compare said apparatus-user information acquired by the received e-mail and said main-memory-card-user information,

and to output the comparison result; and

an access-control unit operable to control access of said memory card based on said comparison result.

24. (Original) The memory card reading/writing apparatus of claim 23 wherein said access-control unit controls access of said memory card based on conditions of use that are included in said e-mail.

25. (Original) The memory card reading/writing apparatus of claim 24 wherein said access-control unit manages the period of time said memory card can be used based on said conditions of use.

26. (Cancelled)

27. (Cancelled)

28. (Cancelled)

29. (Cancelled)

30. (Cancelled)

31. (Cancelled)

32. (Original) An access method of a memory card reading/writing apparatus that is capable of accessing data recorded on a memory card and comprising:

acquiring apparatus-user information that identifies the user of said memory card reading/writing apparatus from memory unit storing said apparatus-user information;

acquiring from said memory card main-memory-card-user information that identifies the main user of said memory card;

comparing said apparatus-user information and main-memory-card-user information;

outputting the comparison result; and

outputting a specific output based on said comparison result.

33. (Original) A program executed by a memory card reading/writing apparatus that is capable of accessing data recorded on a memory card and comprising:

acquiring apparatus-user information that identifies the user of said memory card reading/writing apparatus from memory unit storing said apparatus-user information;

acquiring from said memory card main-memory-card-user information that identifies the main user of said memory card;

comparing said apparatus-user information and main-memory-card-user information;

outputting the comparison result; and

outputting a specific output based on said comparison result.

34. (Original) Storage medium possible to be read by a computer storing a program executed by a memory card reading/writing apparatus that is capable of accessing data recorded on a memory card and comprising:

acquiring apparatus-user information that identifies the user of said memory card reading/writing apparatus from memory unit storing said apparatus-user information;

acquiring from said memory card main-memory-card-user information that identifies the main user of said memory card;

comparing said apparatus-user information and main-memory-card-user information;

outputting the comparison result; and

outputting a specific output based on said comparison result.